

DRAFT**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Hedrick et al.
Appl. No.: 09/966,696
Filed: September 28, 2001
Title: GAMING DEVICE HAVING A CONTAINER-ITEM HOLDER
Art Unit: 3714
Examiner: A. Rada
Docket No.: 0112300-449

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated December 12, 2002, and the telephone interview courteously granted by the Examiner to Applicant's representative on February 19, 2003, please enter this Response in the above-identified patent application.

In the Claims:

Please amend Claim 1 as follows:

1. (Amended) A gaming device comprising:

a cabinet;

a support connected to the cabinet; and

a combined container-item holder connected to the support, wherein said combined container-item holder includes a container holder and an item holder connected to the container holder, and wherein said item holder includes means for enabling a player to securely and removably connect an item to the item holder.

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